

North Carolina Weather & Crops Report

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CROP SUMMARY FOR THE WEEK ENDING SEPTEMBER 28, 2014

GENERAL: Days suitable for field work 4.4. Topsoil moisture 1% very short, 9% short, 74% adequate and 16% surplus. Subsoil moisture 1% very short, 10% short, 75% adequate and 14% surplus. Areas in the Piedmont and Eastern North Carolina received heavy rainfall during the week along with cloudy, cool temperatures. Average temperatures were in the mid-60s. The precipitation will delay farmers once again until the fields can dry out. Reported crop progress data for the week showed soybeans setting pods almost complete at 95% and leaf drop at 34%. Cotton bolls opening recorded at 75%. Reports for corn harvested for grain at 71% and harvested for silage at 83%. Flue-cured tobacco harvest was reported at 80% while Burley harvested is at 65% both remain behind the previous year and the 5 year averages. Sweet potato harvest is at 40%, apple harvest is at 70% and the third cutting of hay is reported at 73%.

CROP PROGRESS PERCENT – WITH COMPARISONS

	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Year Avg
PHENOLOGICAL:				
Soybeans % Setting Pods	95	93	91	98
Soybeans % Leaf Drop	34	27	21	30
Cotton % Bolls Opening	75	63	69	83
HARVESTED:				
Apples	70	66	55	63
Corn for Grain	71	64	83	82
Corn for Silage	83	75	91	95
Hay 3 rd cutting	73	70	39	57
Sweet Potato	40	35	27	33
Tobacco: Burley	65	49	91	85
Tobacco: Flue-cured	80	74	94	86

CROP CONDITION PERCENT

	VP	P	F	G	E
Cotton	0	5	27	56	12
Pasture	1	10	32	49	8
Peanuts	0	2	15	67	16
Sorghum	0	1	26	58	15
Soybeans	1	4	22	60	13
Sweet Potatoes	0	1	15	68	16
Tobacco: Burley	1	2	29	43	25

VP = Very Poor P = Poor F = Fair G = Good EX = Excellent

SOIL MOISTURE PERCENT

	VS	ST	A	SS
Topsoil Moisture	1	9	74	16
Subsoil Moisture	1	10	75	14

VS= Very Short ST = Short A = Adequate SS = Surplus

Corn harvest is about 85% complete. Yields ranging from 150 to 250 bu. per acre. All corn is ready to harvest but 5 days of rainfall last week prevented farmers from finishing. Dry weather the weekend helped but more rain in the forecast for Tues/Wed. Soybeans have lodged in places, which will reduce yields. **Mark Seitz - Pender County Extension**

Starting to see more tobacco fields in which harvest is complete. Tobacco barn curing space continues at full capacity as farmers do their best to get the late crop in before the first frost in mid-October. Sweet potato harvest continues with reported good yields. Peanuts, cotton, and soybeans are also looking good.

Brian Parrish – Harnett County Extension

Tobacco leaf quality declining rapidly due to continued rainfall. Likewise, cotton is mature but unable to defoliate or harvest due to rains. Quality and yield of both crops at risks.

Mike Carroll – Craven and Carteret County Extension

Farmers are trying to get corn harvest finished but are also harvesting soybeans. Recent rains have been favorable on late planted soybeans and cabbage. Some farmers are dealing with some insect problems in their late soybeans. Delayed corn harvest may have some affect on land preparation for wheat planting, but with the prospects of wheat prices, wheat acreage may be off significantly.

Al Wood - Pasquotank County Extension

Last week hay producers got fooled by the meteorologists who kept calling for sunny days. A lot of hay was cut early in the week and rained on. The slow rain was good, however, for those who had already sowed or reseeded forages. Around here, soybeans are just beginning to drop leaves.

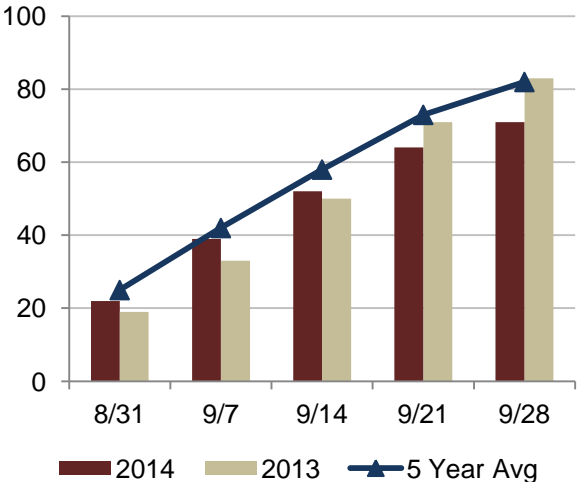
Stephen Bishop – Cleveland NRCS

Pumpkin harvest is going strong. Most of the burley crop is in the barn and the rest should be in the barn within the next 2 weeks. **Julia Houck – Ashe-Alleghany County Extension**

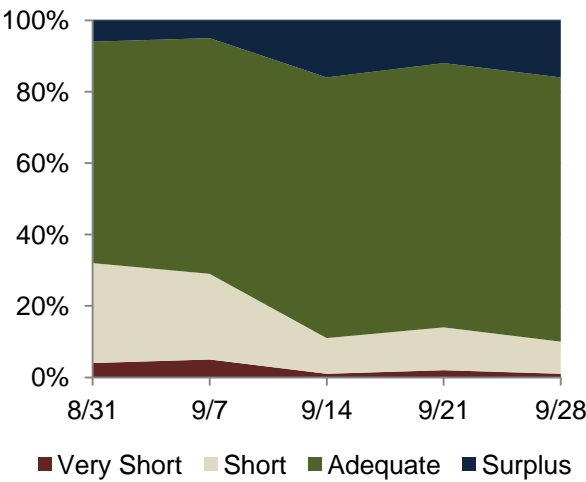
General rains 10 days ago have had time to improve crop yield prospects. Some corn farmers averaging over 100 bushels thanks to new drought tolerant genetics. Soybeans also have improved prospect for above average yields. Adoption of continuous no till by our farmers has really paid off. A study in area indicated that the soil's Cation exchange capacity and humic matter doubles in 4 years of no till.

Steve Gibson – Catawba County Extension

CORN FOR GRAIN PERCENT HARVEST



TOPSOIL MOISTURE PERCENT



WEATHER SUMMARY FOR THE WEEK ENDING SEPTEMBER 28, 2014										
Location	Precipitation (Inches) ¹				Temperature (Degrees F.)					
	This Week		Year To Date		This Week					
	Total	Departure from Normal	Total	Departure from Normal	High	Low	Avg.	Departure from Normal	Degree Days (Year to Date)	
Asheboro	0.27	-0.69	36.60	0.24	76	52	62	-6	3836	
Asheville	0.02	-0.77	36.62	0.17	83	47	64	2	3303	
Burlington	0.21	-0.74	27.81	-7.59	87	52	65	-4	4027	
Charlotte	0.22	-0.67	37.66	4.59	85	53	66	-4	4153	
Clayton	1.11	0.13	50.54	14.61	84	55	65	-4	3838	
Clinton	0.67	-0.40	37.09	-2.48	84	56	67	-4	4216	
Dunn	0.38	-0.60	37.18	-1.40	79	56	66	-3	4280	
Elizabeth City	0.97	-0.12	33.79	-3.94	81	55	69	-2	4096	
Fayetteville	0.69	-0.33	34.01	-3.43	88	57	68	-2	4667	
Gastonia-Gaston	0.30	-0.68	41.26	7.23	85	53	66	-4	4055	
Goldsboro	1.94	0.82	44.16	4.50	85	57	68	-4	4447	
Greensboro	0.25	-0.73	28.67	-4.92	86	54	65	-3	3988	
Greenville	0.89	-0.23	49.54	9.78	80	56	68	-3	4301	
Hickory	0.24	-0.73	34.72	-3.20	85	51	65	-3	3853	
Jefferson	0.28	-0.57	33.84	-4.13	75	38	57	-3	2348	
Kinston	1.40	0.21	43.69	2.75	84	55	67	-2	4195	
Maxton	0.64	-0.44	33.20	-4.94	87	56	68	-3	4442	
Mount Airy	0.13	-0.84	30.79	-5.79	84	47	63	-2	3247	
New Bern	0.48	-0.63	44.57	0.64	86	61	71	0	4732	
North Wilkesboro	0.11	-0.91	34.66	-4.76	84	48	63	-2	3374	
Oxford	2.15	1.17	35.52	0.39	85	53	64	-4	3765	
Raeford	0.46	-0.62	39.00	0.86	85	54	65	-6	4052	
Raleigh-Durham	3.48	2.52	44.31	10.71	87	54	66	-3	4158	
Roanoke Rapids	1.73	0.70	44.74	8.93	84	54	66	-3	3972	
Robbinsville	0.25	-0.66	40.48	-10.55	77	45	64	0	3098	
Roxboro	1.60	0.56	41.72	6.07	85	53	64	-1	3536	
Statesville	0.24	-0.68	29.10	-6.22	85	50	62	-6	3419	
Vale	0.16	-0.79	35.20	-1.10	85	51	63	-5	3532	
Washington	1.57	0.35	44.95	5.65	82	55	67	-3	4223	
Waynesville	0.13	-0.63	34.08	-3.72	82	41	63	3	2929	
Whiteville	0.77	-0.37	42.71	1.83	85	57	68	-4	4302	
Williamston	2.80	1.58	46.80	7.50	83	57	67	-3	4140	
Willimington	0.53	-0.85	48.42	1.94	85	59	70	-3	4723	
Wilson	2.76	1.67	45.68	8.74	79	57	67	-2	4490	
Winston-Salem	0.15	-0.83	27.92	-5.67	85	54	64	-3	3912	

¹ Precipitation data considered preliminary

